view. of the valley of Fontainebleau; supped with the Mar6chal de Segur,

December 26th. I have spent a week in Paris and had some pleasant *reunions.* A splendid dinner at Laborde's *(Garde du tresor),* with much company. The most *recherchee chere I* ever saw. I was introduced by the Duke of Dorset to the Mar6chal de Noailles* An evening at Madame de la Marck's, whose apartments at the Tuileries are magnificent.

February 6th, 1787. Went to Paris; spent the day at Abb6 Tersan's consulting books on gardening and looking over prints.

7th. To Versailles for the Queen's ball The *salle de bal* is very elegantly fitted up, but the colonnade is massive and gloomy; it hides the boxes and company too much. The area for dancing is too low and the dancers are seen to great disadvantage. The men were plainly dressed; some even appeared in mourning. All that danced wore large hats with white plumes, very unbecoming. The assembly was full, but by no means brilliant in dress; indeed, the ladies who did not dance seemed to me quite *en deshabille**

The King walked about and talked to

several
people, without ever sitting down. The Queen
played at *trictrac* in the ball-room. There was no